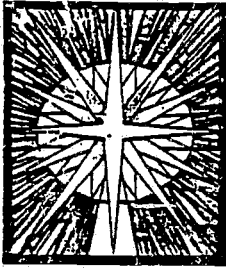


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PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim Jones,
Pastor

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE	
DATE	741
TO	REASON
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS	
DECLASSIFIED	RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED	
PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS	

"For I was an hungered
and ye gave me meat;
I was thirsty
and ye gave me drink;
I was a stranger
and ye took me in;
Naked, and ye clothed me;
I was sick, and ye visited me;
I was in prison,
and ye came unto me.
Then shall the righteous
Answer him, saying,
When saw we thee an hungered
And fed thee?
Or thirsty,
And gave thee drink?
When saw we thee a stranger
And took thee in?
Or naked, and clothed thee?
Or when saw we thee sick?
Or in prison,
And came unto thee?
Verily I say unto you,
Inasmuch as ye have done it
Unto one of the least of these...
...Ye have done it unto me"
Matthew 25:35-40

To all members of the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives:

Please find enclosed a copy of excerpts from an editorial which appeared April 13, 1978, in the Ukiah Daily Journal. We submit to you that their threat to employ mercenaries indicates exactly what kind of element this group, including Timothy Stoen and Steve Katsaris and the other handful of "Concerned Relatives" represents. It also capsulizes what we, the members of Peoples Temple, are up against.

We have known all along that the claims and allegations of these detractors are all fabrications. Mr. Katsaris, for example, claims that his daughter Maria, who is 24 years old, is a "virtual captive" at Jonestown. But Maria just recently traveled in the company of the U.S. Consulate on a private plane from the interior of Jonestown to the capital city, Georgetown. At one point she was alone with her dad, the U.S. Consulate, and the Ambassador. Surely, if she were unhappy with her life, she could have asked to go back with her dad to the U.S. The fact is, however, as Maria has openly stated and to which effect has signed affidavits, her father molested her as a child and she does not want to be in his company at all. Surely, that is her right.

Further, if you will note the enclosed article which was carried in Guyana's largest national newspaper, over 100 members of Peoples Temple participated enthusiastically in an exciting national cultural event last week. All of the people travelled from Jonestown to Georgetown by different routes: some by boat, some by plane. They went freely back and forth. And an additional fact for those whose doubts may still not be erased about Temple members being "captive": there was a city-wide power black-out in Georgetown at the time of the event. Temple members who were staying in the homes of various friends throughout the city could surely have left and gone to the Embassy, had they cared to do so.

Well over fifty people per week, on a regular basis, travel back and forth to the capital by boat or plane. They include professional people such as our teachers, medical staff, and pharmacists; they include children who go into town for orthodontia and other dental care, children who are on field

trips to visit Guyanese schools; and people who are buying supplies and finding potential outlets for products our community industries are busy manufacturing.

The character of Rev. Jones, the years and years of building a human service work— at the cost of extreme personal sacrifice—and the practical help he and the church have provided for the oppressed and needy over the years, constitute a record which is virtually unequaled by any group of our size in the United States. Yet, apparently, the false accusations of a handful of moral degenerates have gained the ear of a few people. Each and every family member (who are mostly between the ages of 19 and 90) has volunteered to step forward and publicly state the kind of degeneracy the relatives they have chosen to have nothing to do with are guilty of.

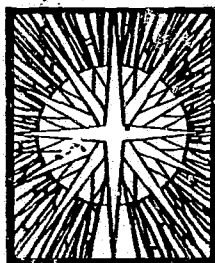
BUT NOW THEY HAVE BELIED THEIR TRUE INTENTIONS WITH THIS NEW ELEMENT OF VIOLENT FORCE. We cannot believe responsible people would assist in any way this overt campaign to destroy a group of people just because they feel their ideas are in some way unacceptable. The threat of violent force—or mercenaries—is an absolute outrage.

What cynics are evidently unable to accept is that Jonestown is in every sense of the word a model community: a society of men, women and children who are fulfilled, creative, and very happy. Not a word to the contrary is true. You can come and see for yourself. We welcome you.

Respectfully yours,



Mr. T. Walker



**PEOPLES
TEMPLE**

OF THE
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

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